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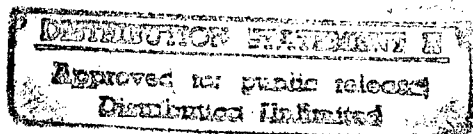
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SUMMARY OF THE BULGARIAN PROVINCIAL PRESS
(26 May-1 June 1960)

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SUMMARY OF THE BULGARIAN PROVINCIAL PRESS
(26 May-1 June 1960)

Preface

The present summary is a report on the economic, political, military and sociological activities and developments in Bulgaria covering all available newspapers of the Bulgarian provincial press from 26 May to 1 June 1960. All items, whether summaries, condensations, or partial translations, reflect the specific and contextual meaning of the original text.

During this week, the newspapers continue to report on celebrations in connection with the 24 May holiday. Much coverage is given to the seasonal agricultural campaign.

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I. ECONOMIC

A. Manufacturing Industries

The "Georgi Dimitrov" State Shipbuilding and Repair Yard "KKZ Georgi Dimitrov") in Varna is working on the construction of two 100 passenger vessels. They are to be completed this year. On 31 May the first such vessel was launched from the shipyard. It was christened the "Alupka". (Narodno Delo, Varna, 1 June 1960, page 1)

The plant near Lovech which manufactures motorcycles and bicycles has produced Bulgaria's first prototypes of passenger cars -- three "Balkan" model automobiles. This car is comfortable and practicable for Bulgarian road conditions. It has four cylinders, and uses six or seven liters of gasoline per 100 kilometers. This car carries four passengers. This first Bulgarian passenger model was exhibited on 1 May in Lovech and Sofia. Mass production of these vehicles is to begin in 1961. (Khaskovska Tribuna, Khaskovo, 26 May 1960, page 4)

B. Chemical Industry

The "Gavril Genov" State Chemical Plant (DKhZ "Gavril Genov") should become a basic enterprise for the production of domestic lacquer. It should undertake the production of ferro-oxide dyes. The annual production of such dyes should reach 4,000 tons by 1962, in order that imports can be halted. This plant should also produce oilfree emulsion dyes. This enterprise uses 1,800 tons of such dyes, mostly corrosive, each year. With a 500% increase in the volume of industrial production (planned for the period up to 1970), the expenditure of oils will increase to 8,000 tons. Ruse Okrug must manufacture carboxymethyl cellulose for synthetic washing products. Both the "Gavril Genov" State Chemical Plant and the "Nayden Kirov" Plant must undertake the production of anticorrosive paints. Some success in this field has been achieved by the latter plant. It is producing phaloite, which is widely used in the Bulgarian chemical industry. This plant is also producing jetinax, textolite, micanite, azobrezolite, etc. However, the total output is small and does not suffice to meet the country's needs. (Dunavska Pravda, Ruse, 27 May 1960, page 3)

C. Non-Ferrous Metallurgy

The "Vatiya" State Mining Enterprise (DMP "Vatiya") in the Botevgrad area operates mines and enterprises in four okrugs -- Vidin, Mikhaylovgrad, Vratsa and Sofia. It has several dozen sites, including a flotation factory, a mill, mines, quarries, shafts producing

lead, zinc, copper and manganese ores, facilities for producing concentrates, barite, clays, talcum, feldspar, dolomite, kieselguhr, refractory sand, etc. A total of 20 items are produced.

Although the enterprise is fulfilling its production plan -- that for the past four months was 101% completed -- the financial situation is not satisfactory. During the first quarter, the enterprise lost 2,300,000 leva, chiefly due to the failure to sell the finished products. Thousands of tons of raw barite are lying unused at railroad depots, mines and inaccessible mountain sites. It is deteriorating and losing value. An inventory taken on 1 November 1959 called attention to a shortage of 1,262 tons of barite. At a cost of 550 leva per ton, approximately, this meant a shortage in the amount of 700,000 leva.

Barite production was begun in the vicinity of the Sverino Railroad Station, where the most important sites are found, in 1950, with the establishment of the Quarries and Nonmineral Ore State Enterprise. Several tons of old barite were on hand when the "Vatiya" State Mining Enterprise took over on 1 January 1958. The loss of this barite resulted from inadequate storage facilities and improper protective measures. The enterprise was refused credit for the purchase of scales for the weighing of barite, and of materials with which to build storage sheds for it.

Barite production has been halted by a decree of the Council of Ministers dated 25 November 1959, but more than 7,000 tons remains to be purchased, and 5,700 more tons have been purchased but not delivered. This barite, worth more than 5,000,000 leva, continues to lie idle, deteriorating in quality. (Sofiyiska Pravda, Sofia, 28 May 1960, page 2)

D. Fuels and Power

Ruse Okrug is currently being supplied with electricity by the regional substation on "Angel Getsov" Boulevard in the city of Ruse, the Ruse Thermoelectric Power Plant, and the "Energovlak" Thermoelectric Power Plant (TETs "Energovlak"), which are collaborating. The diesel units at the Ruse Thermoelectric Power Plant have already been amortized, and the electrical energy produced there is quite costly. The use of coal from the Pirin Mountains, which is scarce, and of steam boilers, for turbines, is unprofitable. The Ruse substation is the principal source of electricity for the city and the okrug, and is comparatively modern. It has electric transmission cables of 110 kilowatts which link it with the substations in Gorna Oryakhovitsa and Razgrad. With these, it forms a high voltage double feeding circuit. There is an installation of 60 kilowatts for the exchange of electrical energy with Rumania. The substation feeds all the industrial enterprises in the Saraya section of the city of Ruse, as well as the central and eastern industrial zones. It should be

mentioned that almost all the long distance industrial electric transmission cables carry heavy loads, or are overloaded. This will result in problems in the future supplying of electricity for the planned expansion of industrial enterprises.

Electricity is supplied to the settlements in the okrug through central electric cables of 20 kilowatts. This year 7 additional villages will be provided with electricity, and the last 5 villages in the Okrug will receive power in 1961. However, while the consumption of electrical energy is increasing constantly, especially in the TKZS, practically no expansion of transformer capacity or networks is under way. This lag is hindering the needed progress in the mechanization of agriculture.

Ruse is serviced by a 3 kilowatt cable network which has been in use for 40 years and is much overloaded. The capacity of the low tension network is insufficient, and total reconstruction is needed. The worn out cable network, the shortage of transformers, etc., have already made it impossible to increase the load further. Thus there are frequent interruptions in the current and a tension as low as 120 volts instead of the needed 220. These situations prevail in several sections of the city of Ruse. A drastic change is contemplated in this connection for Ruse Okrug. The present sources of electrical energy will be altered substantially. The main such centers will in the future be the Ruse-iztok Thermoelectric Power Plant (TETs "Ruse-iztok"), a new plant with an initial capacity of 25,000 kilowatts to be built by 1963 in Hunters' Park, the Ruse substation, with 110 kilowatts (the present substation will be fed by a new one with 220/110 kilowatts to be built near Obratzov Chiflik, one of the largest in the country), and the Lyulyaka substation -- 110 kilowatts -- which will supply a pumping station and will be linked with the future junction station to be placed east of the new dairy plant and with the "Yuta" Station in the Saraya sector of the city.

In view of these proposed sources, Ruse industry, which is for the most part concentrated in the eastern and western industrial zones, should continue in the future to be fed on a 20 kilowatt basis. The eastern industrial zone will be provided with electricity by the Ruse 100 kilowatt plant and the Ruse-iztok TETs. The new thermoelectric power plant will have a 20 kilowatt distributor system, as this will best serve the large plants nearby. Parts of its 20 kilowatt production will be used for other purposes through the Ruse 110 kilowatt substation. Four branches are planned. The first will supply all enterprises near the Danube River. The second will run to the proposed bakery combine and the warehouse zone near the Ruse TETs. The third will feed the "Petur Karaminchev" State Industrial Enterprise (DIP "Petru Karaminchev"), the "Nayden Kirov" DIP, and the "Vaptsarov" Shop. The fourth branch will go direct to the "Georgi Dimitrov" State Machine Building Plant (DMZ "Georgi Dimitrov"). A second direct cable will link the Ruse-iztok TETs with the "Vasil

Kolarov" Locomotive and Railroad Car Plant (LVZ "Vasil Kolarov"), and another will go to the sugar-processing plant, and a third to the proposed industrial area to the east. The possibility of double feeding from the present long distance electric cables will be provided for. A junction station will be built near the milk plant in the western industrial zone. It will make possible the double circuit electrical feeding of the enterprises around the repair plant. A cable will lead to the Lyulyaka substation and the "Yuta" Junction Station. The cable linking the latter station and the city station on "Georgi Dimitrov" Boulevard will be completed in 1961. The western industrial zone will thus be ensured of electrical supply from two quarters. All the industrial enterprises in the Saraya quarter will be serviced by double feeding. The first part of this system has already been completed. The city of Ruse will be serviced by a cable network with an average tension of 10 kilowatts, instead of the 6 originally planned. This will substantially cut construction costs and expenditures on copper wire. Two city substations are to be built. One will be located on "Georgi Dimitrov" Boulevard, and is now under construction. It will temporarily be linked with the present Ruse substation. The second is to be located within the regional substation. It will supply electrical energy for the new housing units. (Dunavska Pravda, Ruse, 26 May 1960, page 2)

II. SOCIOLOGICAL ITEMS

A. Civil Marriage Ceremonies

"It is our regretful duty to point out that there are still some obshtina people's soviets in Varna Okrug which are not being properly respectful and are failing to create a suitably solemn atmosphere in civil marriage ceremonies." In many localities, Komsomol organizations, administrative councils of Farm Workers' Cooperatives, directors of enterprises and Machine Tractor Stations fail to evidence the proper attitude and to render aid to young persons contracting civil marriages. "In many cases, the setting and the entire procedure of recording the marriage are unattractive." The young couple enters the office carrying flowers and accompanied by their parents, friends and relatives. The office may be unwelcoming in its aspect -- there are often paper-littered desks, employees are in work clothing, and officials evidence indifference toward the ceremony. (Narodno Delo, Varna, 27 May 1960, page 2)

B. Decadent Music Played

Many of the orchestras performing in Plovdiv restaurants play principally Italian, West German, American and other foreign songs. Appealing to the baser passions and primitive tastes of certain

bourgeois circles in the west, this music does not have as its purpose the satisfaction of the listeners' aesthetic needs."

It appears that such music -- sambas, mambos, cha-cha-chas, rock and roll, etc. is popular with many Plovdiv dance bands, as well. They play it over and over. The sweets shop at the "Trimontsium" Hotel has a phonograph. The records played are of "the most rotten Western chef d'oeuvres." People in such establishments would be led to believe that they were elsewhere than in a Bulgarian eating place. Bulgarian jazz melodies and songs are not played. (Otechestven Glas, Plovdiv, 29 May 1960, page 1)

C. Conference on Turkish History Education

A conference on the subject of the foundation of the Bulgarian nation and the decline of Turkish feudalism was sponsored in Kolarovgrad on 19 May by the Kolarovgrad Okrug Fatherland Front Committee.

A paper entitled "The Decay of Turkish Feudalism and the National Liberation Movement Among the Bulgarian People" was read by Osman Ismailov, a teacher at the Kolarovgrad Normal School. He stressed the wisdom of the attitude evidenced by Bulgarian revolutionaries toward the Turkish people. He quoted the former as expressing themselves as opposed only to the Turkish government and its supporters and protectors, and not to the Turkish people as a whole.

Another paper, entitled "The Formation of the Bulgarian Nation" was read by Yusein Kurdov, Secretary of the Kolarovgrad Okrug Fatherland Front Committee.

Saim Musov, a teacher, spoke on the joint struggle of Bulgarians and the Turkish people under Turkish domination and during the era of fascism.

In conclusion, A. Videnov made a lengthy statement in which he emphasized the fact that the Bulgarian and Turkish intelligentsia in Kolarovgrad Okrug must constantly explain historical events to the young generation of Turks in a Marxist fashion, and must educate them in a spirit of patriotism and internationalism. (Kolarovgradska Borba, Kolarovgrad, 31 May 1960, page 2)

D. Crime

Adamant and systematic effort on the part of the public as a whole is needed in order to eradicate the remnants of the past which constitute the major cause of crime in socialist society. Many violations of the law by minors occur in Blagoevgrad Okrug. In 1959, 37% of all the crimes committed were acts of those under 18. This fact appears even more alarming when it is noted that 50% of these were school pupils.

Some minors have been guilty of very serious felonies, including hooliganism and rape.

It can be stated that the majority of the criminals among young people are children who have had inadequate parental supervision and who have not become members of Komsomol organizations. All these groups should join in active combat against juvenile delinquency. "Let us not forget that the enemies of the people wrap their tentacles around the young in an effort to poison their susceptible minds." (Pirinsko Delo, Blagoevgrad, 28 May 1960, page 4)

E. Returned Defectors

Aleksa Vangelov Korchev, of Kurnalovo village, a leader of the opposition party, decided, in 1949, to leave the country. One night he and another farmer crossed the Greek border illegally. After beatings and other torture, they convinced the Greek authorities that they did oppose the Bulgarian regime, and they were sent to the "Lavrion" Camp near Athens, where spies and diversionists were trained to work against the socialist countries. Here Aleksa was joined by his brother Marko. It was several times proposed that he return to Bulgaria as a spy, but he refused repeatedly. He was then sent to the island of Siros. Those in the camp there were sold as slaves to various capitalist countries. Representatives came from Brazil, New Zealand, Australia, France and other countries went there to obtain cheap manpower.

"Aleksa Korchev expressed a preference to be sold to French representatives, and contracts were drawn up." After five years of slave labor in France, Korchev took advantage of the amnesty granted by the Bulgarian government in 1954 and repeated in 1956. Despite the obstacles created by traitors to Bulgaria, his commercial employers and the local authorities, he and his brother, who had gone to Brazil, succeeded in reaching Bulgaria. Now the two work in the ironmonger's shop on the farm at Kurnalovo. Korchev stated that he wanted his story printed in this newspaper "so that his words could be read by many so that they could avoid becoming the victims of foreign propaganda and the sweet words about life in the capitalist world. He says to all that their fate would be the same as his, and they would suffer the same indescribable trials as he underwent." (Pirinsko Delo, Blagoevgrad, 28 May 1960, page 3)

Velyo Orakov, of the village of Belasitsa in Kolarovo Obshtina, crossed the border into Greek territory in 1949, along with Iliya Kukov, of the city of Petrich. He too was sent to the "Lavrion" Camp. Orakov states that he found there people who had fled Bulgaria for no particular reason. These included a young person named Kircho from the village of Svoboda. He was 17 years of age, and had broken his father's plow. In order to avoid a beating, he had run away and crossed the border. He was being trained by the Greek

authorities and the camp administration for espionage. However, he objected strenuously. Yordan Vasilev, of the village of Bubislav in Sofia Okrug, escaped to Greece because of a family quarrel. He was accompanied by Radka Petrova Stoyanova, of the city of Petrich.

Agreeing to carry out espionage against Bulgaria, Orakov was first sent to Munich, in West Germany, to a special "school for bandits". There he remained several months. Returning to Greece, he then made two trips across the border into Bulgaria, even visiting his native village, on diversionist missions.

However, he decided to cease his anti-people's activities, as he found that wherever he went "people wanted nothing to do with him." Even his family and friends in Belasitsa did not want to see him." He announced that he would not continue his assigned activities in Bulgaria. As a punishment, he was sent to the island of Crete. There he was forced to live in unheard of misery. When a Bulgarian vessel happened to call there, the Bulgarian traitors were confined to prevent them from trying to escape back to Bulgaria.

Following the granting of the amnesty by the Bulgarian government, Orakov and several of his comrades returned to the country. He is now working in a Farm Workers' Cooperative, and states that to his great surprise he not only escaped trial for his espionage activities, but was immediately welcomed and taken care of. (Pirinsko Delo, Blagoevgrad, 1 June 1960, page 3)

III. MILITARY

A. Identification of Commissioned Officers in the Ministry of the Interior

Colonel Katsarov, a member of the Kolarovgrad Okrug administration of the Ministry of the Interior, attended a meeting dealing with the establishment of a voluntary unit for the maintenance of public order at the "Av. Popov" State Industrial Enterprise (DIP "AV. Popov"). (Kolarovgradska Borba, Kolarovgrad, 31 May 1960, page 2)